

wherein:

*D4*  
*cont*

$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4$  and  $R_6$ , which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of: H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms, halogen, CN, azide,  $NRR'$ ,  $C_{1-8}$  alkylamino, arylamino,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyloxy, aryloxy, COOR, CONRR',  $C(=O)R$ , wherein R and R', which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms or naphthyl- $C_{1-8}$ ;

*Sub*  
*E1*  
*cont*

$R_5$  is chosen from the group consisting of: H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, COOR, CN, phenyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms;  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms-ribose phosphate;

X is chosen from the group consisting of: O,  $C(=O)R$ , COOR,  $NO_2$ , and CONNR', wherein R and R' are as above defined;

Q is chosen from the group consisting of single-bond,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, CO, CONR, and NR, where R is as above defined;

W is chosen from the group consisting of H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, trifluoromethyl,  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy- $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl- $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, phenyloxy, biphenyloxy, naphthyloxy, phenylamino, biphenylamino, naphthylamino,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl-carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, biphenylcarbonyl, naphthylcarbonyl, phenylcarboxyl, biphenylcarboxyl, naphthylcarboxyl, phenylcarboxamide, biphenylcarboxamide, naphthylcarboxamide, halogen, CN,  $NRR'$ ,

D4  
Cont

C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylamino, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms wherein the groups alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms, can be substituted;

n is an integer comprised between 1 and 4;

the symbol ----- means that the corresponding bonds a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h and i are single or double bonds, with the proviso that when b or f are a double bond, the group R<sub>5</sub> is absent; their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters.

Sub E1  
Cont

2. (twice amended) A benzo(c)quinolizine compound of formula (1) according to Claim 1, wherein R<sub>5</sub> = H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms; or a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms-ribose-phosphate;

X = O, COOH;

Q = single bond, CO, CONR, NR, wherein R

is chosen from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one to three N atoms, naphthyl-C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl;

W = H, F, Cl, Br, Me, t-butyl, C<sub>1-8</sub>alkoxy, 2,5-dimethylhexyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,5-(di-trifluoromethyl)-phenyl, 4-methyloxy-phenyl, phenyl, phenyl-C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-8</sub>alkylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyl;

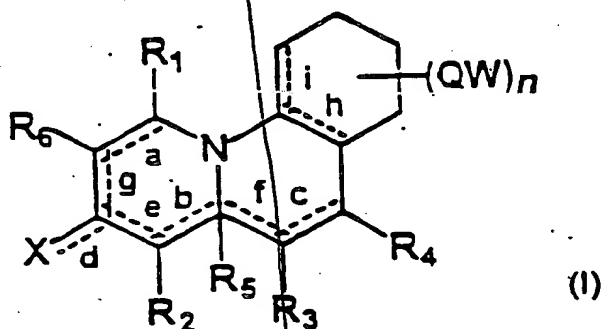
n = 1 and 2;

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> = H, Me, CN, phenyl, COOR, CONRR', C(=O)R, wherein R and R' are the same or different and are chosen from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated heterocycle containing one to three N atoms,

D 1  
Cost  
Sub E cont  
naphthyl-C<sub>1-8</sub>.

D 2  
10. (amended) A pharmaceutical composition wherein the active principle is a compound of formula (I) according to Claim 1 or mixtures thereof in combination with suitable pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

D 3  
28. (amended) A fully and partially reduced benzo(c)quinolizine compound of formula (I):



wherein:

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of: H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom, halogen, CN, azide, NRR', C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylamino, arylamino, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyloxy, aryloxy, COOR, CONRR', C(=O)R, wherein R and R', which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated heterocycle containing one N atom, naphthyl-C<sub>1-8</sub>;

R<sub>5</sub> is chosen from the group consisting of: H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, COOR, CN, phenyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom; C<sub>1-8</sub>

alkyl saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom-  
ribose phosphate;

X is chosen from the group consisting of: O, C(=O)R, COOR, NO<sub>2</sub>,  
and CONNR', wherein R and R' are as above defined;

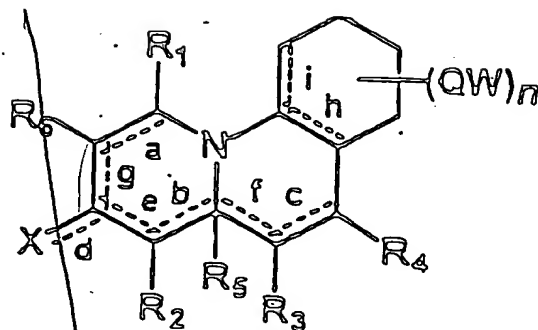
Q is chosen from the group consisting of single-bond, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl,  
C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane,  
cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane,  
camphane, adamantane, CO, CONR, and NR, where R is as above  
defined;

W is chosen from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub>  
alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane,  
cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane,  
adamantane, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl,  
phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl-C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl,  
phenyloxy, biphenyloxy, naphthyloxy, phenylamino, biphenylamino,  
naphthylamino, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl,  
biphenylcarbonyl, naphthylcarbonyl, phenylcarboxyl,  
biphenylcarboxyl, naphthylcarboxyl, phenylcarboxamide,  
biphenylcarboxamide, naphthylcarboxamide, halogen, CN, NRR',  
C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylamino, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one  
N atom wherein the groups alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclopropane,  
cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane,  
cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl,  
naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one N  
atom, can be substituted;

n is an integer comprised between 1 and 4;

the symbol ----- means that the corresponding bonds a, b, c, d,  
e, f, g, h and i are single or double bonds, with the proviso  
that when b or f are a double bond, the group R<sub>5</sub> is absent; their  
pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters.

29. (new) A fully and partially reduced benzo(c)quinolizine  
compound of formula (1):



wherein:

*03*  
*Cont*

*Sub E2*  
*Cont*

$R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_6$ , which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of: H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom, halogen, CN, azide,  $NRR'$ ,  $C_{1-8}$  alkylamino, arylamino,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyloxy, aryloxy,  $COOR$ ,  $CONRR'$ ,  $C(=O)R$ , wherein R and  $R'$ , which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl, naphthyl- $C_{1-8}$ ;

$R_5$  is chosen from the group consisting of: H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-8}$ alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl,  $COOR$ , CN, phenyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl;  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl saturated or aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl-ribose phosphate;

X is chosen from the group consisting of: O,  $C(=O)R$ ,  $COOR$ ,  $NO_2$ , and  $CONNR'$ , wherein R and  $R'$  are as above defined;

Q is chosen from the group consisting of single-bond,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, CO,  $CONR$ , and  $NR$ , where R is as above defined;

D3  
Cont  
Sub  
E2  
Cont

W is chosen from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl-C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, phenyloxy, biphenyloxy, naphthyloxy, phenylamino, biphenylamino, naphthylamino, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, biphenylcarbonyl, naphthylcarbonyl, phenylcarboxyl, biphenylcarboxyl, naphthylcarboxyl, phenylcarboxamide, biphenylcarboxamide, naphthylcarboxamide, halogen, CN, NRR', C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylamino, saturated or aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, imidazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and piperidinyl wherein the groups alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, camphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one N atom, can be substituted;  
n is an integer comprised between 1 and 4;  
the symbol ----- means that the corresponding bonds a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h and i are single or double bonds, with the proviso that when b or f are a double bond, the group R<sub>5</sub> is absent; their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters.

#### REMARKS

In the Office Action, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) of claims 1 and 10-12 were withdrawn. The rejection of claims 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph were withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for reasons of record as set forth in Paper No. 10.

Reconsideration is requested.

This rejection was based on the contention that the term "one or more N in a ring" read on non-existent and non-enabled species. By this Amendment, the applicants have revised the text of the claims from "one or more N in a ring" to --one